



THE EUROPEAN
SOCIETY FOR
CLINICAL
NUTRITION AND
METABOLISM

Dear Colleagues,

COVID-19 has become a huge healthcare, social and economic threat worldwide during the past few months. Clinical outcome is poorer in several patient groups at risk for malnutrition. Persons with obesity are also at higher clinical risk. Nutritional care is therefore of utmost relevance in all COVID-19 patients and may play an important role also in disease prevention. Despite the relevance of nutritional research in COVID-19, available evidence is extremely limited. From over 75.000 publications on COVID-19 available in PubMed, only 1200 are retrieved when adding nutrition in the search, and just 169 when malnutrition is used as key-word.

Strengthening the evidence on the potential key role of nutritional status and nutritional care in COVID-19 is therefore an unmet clinical need and an urgent priority. ESPEN and World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe have discussed this topic and agreed to open a call for papers on nutritional status and nutritional care in COVID-19 patients, to be hosted in the ESPEN Journals Clinical Nutrition and Clinical Nutrition ESPEN. The call will be guest-edited by ESPEN and WHO officers.

Submissions are encouraged on various aspects of nutrition and COVID-19 in all clinical settings (home-care, hospital wards, Intensive Care Unit - ICU) with special priority for (but not limited to):

- Malnutrition risk and diagnosis in COVID-19 patient cohorts and their impact on clinical outcome.
- Special patient groups: older adults, chronic disease, ICU.
- Medical nutrition treatment in COVID-19 patients and its impact on clinical outcomes in all clinical settings.
- Micronutrients status in COVID-19 patients and their impact on risk of infection and COVID-19 clinical outcome.
- Obesity and malnutrition in COVID-19 and their impact on outcome.
- Organization of nutritional assessment and nutritional care in all clinical settings to face the COVID-19 pandemic.

ESPEN - The European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism

Non-Profit Association – Registre de Commerce et des Sociétés ID: F 8909

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All papers must be submitted to Clinical Nutrition with the article type: COVID-19 by February 28th, 2021 and if eligible for publication will be offered publication on either Clinical Nutrition or Clinical Nutrition ESPEN based on priority.

We hope and trust that this initiative will contribute to collect much-needed evidence on this very important but unfortunately largely neglected topic, with the ultimate goal to provide strong arguments for implementation of optimal nutritional care for COVID-19 patients.

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